

KING COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



LEESA MANION (she/her)
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

JUSTICE
COMPASSION
PROFESSIONALISM
INTEGRITY
LEADERSHIP

May 2, 2024

The Honorable Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 5th Avenue, Suite 800
Chinook Building
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Law Enforcement Use of Force Fatality Regarding Ryan Smith

Dear Executive Constantine:

The King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has received and reviewed the investigative materials from the Seattle Police Department Force Investigation Team, concerning the officer-involved shooting of Ryan Smith on May 8, 2019.

In accordance with Executive Order PHL-7-1-5-EO §7.1, we are satisfied that the investigation is now complete and recommend that an inquest be initiated pursuant to the King County Charter §895, which requires a mandatory inquest unless, under PHL-7-1-5-EO §6.1, you determine that the role of law enforcement was de minimis and did not contribute in any discernable way to a person's death.

Per PHL-7-1-5-EO §8.4, upon your request, we will forward the investigative file to the Inquest Program Manager. Such requests can be sent to PAOPublicIntegrity@kingcounty.gov.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (206) 477-1174. I would be more than happy to meet with you if you would like to discuss this matter in further detail.

Sincerely,

For LEESA MANION
King County Prosecuting Attorney

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel J. Clark".

Daniel J. Clark
Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Mainstream Criminal Division

Enclosure: Internal Memorandum

cc: Adrian Diaz, Chief of Police, Seattle Police Department
Yvonne Underwood, Assistant Chief, Seattle Police Department
Stephanie Merritt, Detective, Seattle Police Department
James Bush, Communications Specialist, King County Executive's Office
Chase Gallagher, Communications Director, King County Executive's Office
Lily Clifton, Executive Assistant, King County Executive's Office
Marcus Stubblefield, Criminal Justice Manager, King County Executive's Office
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Executive, King County Executive's Office
David Hackett, General Counsel, King County Executive's Office
Dee Sylve, Inquest Program Manager, King County Executive Services
Matthew Anderson, Inquest Attorney, King County Executive Services